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May 21, 2012

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd Chief Clerk and Administrator South Carolina Public Service Commission Synergy Business Park, The Saluda Building 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Re: Office of Regulatory Staff Petition to Review FCC Mandated

Reductions to Intrastate Access Tariffs

Docket No. 2012-136-C

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Please find attached for filing a Response on behalf of the South Carolina Telephone Coalition to AT&T's Motions in the above-referenced matter.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

McNAIR LAW FIRM, P.A.

Margaretll. Fox

Margaret M. Fox

MMF:rwm Enclosure

Parties of Record cc:

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## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2012-136-C

In Re:	Office of Regulatory Staff Petition to	) SOUTH CAROLINA TELEPHON	E
	Review FCC Mandated Reductions to	) COALITION RESPONSE TO	
	Intrastate Access Tariffs	) AT&T'S MOTIONS	

The South Carolina Telephone Coalition ("SCTC") respectfully files this response to the Motion for Protective Order and Motion to Require Filing of Standardized Spreadsheets Supporting Tariff Filings filed by AT&T South Carolina ("AT&T") in the above-referenced matter.

By its Motion for a Protective Order, AT&T asks the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") to require affected local exchange carriers to serve documentation supporting the tariff filings in this docket on all parties to the docket, and proposes that the Commission issue a general Protective Order in the docket. Likewise, in its Motion to Require Filing of Standardized Spreadsheets Supporting Tariff Filings, AT&T asks that the Commission require the use of standardized spreadsheets adopted by the FCC.<sup>1</sup>

SCTC agrees that affected local exchange carriers should file supporting documentation using the FCC's standardized spreadsheets to the extent possible. As the FCC recognized, presenting the data in a uniform manner will help facilitate review of the rate revisions that will be filed by the companies.

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Order, *In the Matter of Material to be Filed in Support of 2012 Annual Access Tariff Filings*, WCB/Pricing File No. 12-08, DA 12-575 (rel. April 19, 2012).

SCTC has a concern, however, with the request by AT&T that *all data* filed in the docket should be served on *all parties* of record. *See Motion to Require Filing of Standardized Spreadsheets Supporting Tariff Filings* at p. 2; *Motion for Protective Order* at p. 1. At this point, it is unclear how much data there will be, and the exact nature of the data that will be filed. We respectfully ask the Commission to rule that any confidential information that is filed in the docket that is deemed to be confidential information subject to the Protective Order must be provided to interested parties of record only *upon request*. This will help reduce unnecessary duplication and circulation of the companies' confidential information, as well as the related time and expense of serving numerous parties with potentially voluminous data.

Additionally, and more importantly, while it may be desirable to have a general Protective Order in place for confidential information that may be shared by the parties in this docket, there may be some data that will be filed in this docket that would be considered *highly confidential* and/or *trade secret information*. We respectfully ask that the Commission not predetermine that it is appropriate in all cases to require the automatic disclosure to all parties of record (or even to requesting parties) of any and all information that potentially may be filed in the docket. While SCTC has not fully determined the confidential status of the information it intends to file at this time, SCTC respectfully submits that the Commission should not prejudge whether a Protective Order will be sufficient *in all cases* to protect any and all information that may be filed in this docket. SCTC respectfully submits that an advance Protective Order may not be sufficient to cover any and all situations that may arise.

There may be information filed in this docket that would require a higher level of protection than is afforded in the Protective Order proposed by AT&T. SCTC respectfully reserves the right to make an appropriate argument at the appropriate time that particular

information being requested should be disclosed only to particular persons or parties and/or pursuant to terms and conditions that may be more stringent than those included in the Protective Order, if such protections are necessary to ensure the protection of highly confidential or trade secret information.

WHEREFORE, the South Carolina Telephone Coalition respectfully requests that this honorable Commission:

- (1) grant AT&T's motion to require filing of standardized spreadsheets supporting tariff filings in this docket to the extent possible, and direct that any confidential information contained therein be provided to interested parties of record only upon request;
- (2) enter a Protective Order in this matter that provides for the protection of confidential information requested by an interested party;
- (3) include a provision in the Protective Order allowing parties to claim that particular information is highly confidential or trade secret information that should be disclosed only to particular persons or parties and/or pursuant to terms and conditions that may be more stringent than those included in the Protective Order, if those protections are necessary to ensure the protection of the highly confidential or trade secret information, as may be determined by the Commission on a case by case basis; and
  - (4) grant such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

M. John Bowen, Jr.
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May 21, 2012

Columbia, South Carolina

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Docket No. 2012-136-C

In Re:	Office of Regulatory Staff Petition to Review FCC Mandated Reductions to Intrastate Access Tariffs	) ) )	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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I, Rebecca W. Martin, do hereby certify that I have this date served one (1) copy of the attached Response on behalf of the South Carolina Telephone Coalition upon the following parties causing said copy to be deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class postage prepaid and properly affixed thereto, and addressed as follows:

John J. Pringle, Jr., Esquire Ellis, Lawhorne & Sims, P. A. Post Office Box 2285 Columbia, South Carolina 29202

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